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Ampthill Rural District Council.

REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

FOR

THE YEAR 1921.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

OF THE

AMPTHILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Twenty-fourth Annual Report.

This will, for the following reason, be rather shorter than usual, viz., all Medical Officers of Health have been requested by the Minister of Health to omit all details of conditions which do not vary from year to year, and to curtail the information asked for in certain years. It is hoped, by this means, to effect a reduction, both in the time required by Medical Officers for preparing the Reports, and in the cost of printing them, without detriment to its main objects. However, at intervals of about every five years, a more detailed Report will be required.

Since my last Report was written, a census of the entire Country has been taken, and this will enable statistics to be more accurate for the next few years.

In regard to population, I mentioned in my last Report that I thought the Ministry had under-estimated the population of this area, and this I find to be true. Their estimate was 18,932, whereas the number found at the census was 19,180.

For several years previously the District has been divided into sub-districts, but as the Government statistics have not been sub-divided, the District will be treated as a whole.

DEATH-RATE. I will first of all take the Death-rate of the District. The population, as given at the last census, is 19,180.

The corrected number of Deaths is 193, which is less than 212 of the previous year. This gives a Death-rate of 10.6, which compares favourably with the rest of England and Wales, which is 12.1.

I will now classify the Deaths according to ages.

| Under or | ne | yea | ar c | f age | 30 | Between | 10 | and | 15 | 3 |
|----------|----|-----|------|-------|----------|-----------|----|-------|-----|---------|
| Between | I | an | d 2 | | 4 | ,, | 15 | ,, | 20 | 4 |
| , , | | | | | 4 | ,, | 20 | ,, | 35 | 20 |
| ٠, | 3 | ,, | 4 | | Nil. | ,, | 35 | ,, | 45 | 9 |
| ,, | | | | | 2 | ,, | 45 | ,, | 65 | 57 |
| 5.7 | 5 | 9.9 | 10 | | 7 | Over 65 y | ea | rs of | age | 153 |

BIRTH-RATE. I now come to this most important matter. As the number of births is 353, it gives a Birth-rate of 184, which is considerably under that of the previous year, when 234 was recorded. I may say that the Birth-rate of England and Wales is 224; you will thus see that we are well under the average. The number of children born out of wedlock is 11, which is a great drop on the two preceding years, when 37 and 27 were recorded respectively. This shows that out of every 1,000 births, 311 are illegitimate,

The number of children who died under one year of age is 30, which gives an infantile mortality of 840, which is about the average of the rest of England and Wales, viz., 83. The deaths amongst illegitimate children number 2, and as 11 were born out of wedlock, it gives a death-rate of over 181 per thousand illegitimate births. The numbers, however, are so few, that it is an unsatisfactory basis to work on.

CANCER. The deaths from this disease amounted to 32, which is a diminution of one on the previous year. This disease keeps about the same number year after year. No specific has yet been discovered, and our only hope is to diagnose the case early and operate.

The cases are distributed over the following parishes, viz., Aspley Heath, 1; Aspley Guise, 2; Clophill, 2; Cranfield, 3; Eversholt, 2; Flitwick, 2; Gravenhurst, 1; Harlington, 1; Haynes, 1; Husborne Crawley, 1; Lidlington, 1; Marston Moretaine, 1; Maulden, 1; Pulloxhill, 3; Ridgmont, 1; Salford, 1; Shillington, 2; Steppingley, 1; Toddington, 3; and Woburn, 2.

The following are the organs affected:-

| Aesophagus | S | 5 . | Glands | I |
|------------|---|-----|------------|-------|
| Bowel | | 4 | Liver | 3 |
| Breast | | 3 | Kidney | I |
| Jaw | | I | Stomach | 8 |
| Lip | | 1 | Uterus | 3 |
| Pancreas | | 1 | Peritoneum | 1 |

Twelve of the cases occurred amongst males, and twenty amongst females. The ages at which death occurred ranged from 50 to 86.

INFLUENZA. This is the first year for some considerable time that no death has occurred. Until the middle of December very few cases of this disease appeared. Then commenced an epidemic which numerically almost equalled that of the Winter of 1918-19. Fortunately, it was not of a severe type, and had nothing like the disastrous result of the epidemic of that Winter.

TUBERCULOSIS. This disease shows no tendency to diminish. In fact, twenty-four deaths have occurred during the year, compared with 21 in 1920. In 17 the lungs were affected.

My Council have taken the following steps in order to prevent the spread of the disease:-

- (a) All houses where deaths have occurred are disinfected.
- (b) Printed instructions are sent to all cases,
- (c) Pocket spittoons and paper handkerchiefs are given to all poor people affected with the disease.
- (d) The Council defrays the cost of examination of the sputum in doubtful cases.

The County Council Sanatorium at Muggerhanger commenced to take in patients the latter end of the year. This is a decided advantage, as the County will not be so dependent on sanatoria belonging to other bodies. I cannot do better than repeat what I have said on previous occasions, viz., if the onslaught on this disease is to be successful, the treatment of all Pulmonary cases will have to be grappled with. This disease will have to be diagnosed early, and the patients sent to sanatoria, as the chance of a cure gets less and less as the disease advances. Advanced cases in small households will have to be removed from their surroundings to prevent its spread. There is, I know, a sentimental objection to this, but sentiment must be swept aside when the good of the community is at stake. It is the advanced cases, attended with a great deal of expectoration, that are the menace to the people who live in close proximity to them; early cases are less dangerous. The main preventive and curative agent for the disease is, a liberal supply of fresh air. Most of the cottages in this district have only two bedrooms, and these are, as a rule, small; the cubic space per head is thus in many cases very limited, and unless the air can be frequently renewed, the atmosphere becomes very polluted. Under the circumstances it is highly necessary that bedroom windows should be kept open day and night, and the chimneys not blocked, as they are in some instances. In regard to this matter, I think the veterinary inspection of cows at periodical intervals is a necessity, and no doubt this can be done more economically by the County Council than by any other body.

The number of Tuberculosis notifications received during the year (excluding those on Forms C and D) amounted to 40. Of these, 28 are Pulmonary cases; Glands, 7; Bone, 2; Hip-joint, 2; and Intestine, 1. These are distributed over the following parishes, viz., Aspley Guise, 3; Aspley Heath, 1; Clophill, 3; Cranfield, 1; Flitton, 3; Flitwick, 3; Marston, 2; Maulden, 3; Milbrook, 1; Haynes, 1; Lidlington, 1; Shillington, 7; Silsoe, 1; Steppingley, 1; Toddington, 8; and Woburn, 1.

This is an increase of 8 on that of the previous year,

I now come to the notifiable Zymotic Diseases. The total number brought to my notice amounted to 117, which is a considerable increase on the 77 of the previous year.

In regard to the non-notifiable infectious diseases, there has been a fair amount in some of the villages, but in not many instances has it been necessary to close the Schools on account of it.

CHICKEN-Pox. With the exception of an outbreak at Silsoe, which necessitated the closure of the schools, there has been no epidemic of any importance.

DIPHTHERIA. The large number of 50 have been brought to my notice, and of these, more than half, viz., 28, occurred in the Parish of Flitwick.

Other parishes in which cases occurred are: Clophill, 4; Eversholt, 1; Haynes, 1; Houghton Conquest, 2; Husborne Crawley, 1; Lidlington, 1; Marston Moretaine, 4; Maulden, 6; Pulloxbill, 1; and Steppingley, 1,

The outbreak at Flitwick commenced about the middle of October, and probably derived its origin from Ampthill, where the disease had been prevalent for some considerable time. Fresh cases cropped up continually until the end of the year, when the epidemic was still in progress. Every effort was made to stop the progress of the disease, each case being removed to the Isolation Hospital as soon as it was detected. The Schools were also closed for a short period in December. All the cases, with the exception of two which were too ill to be removed, were sent to the Isolation Hospital. Three cases proved fatal.

ERYSIPELAS. Only four cases of this disease occurred. I fail to see the utility of the notification of this disease.

EXTERIC FEVER. No case of this disease has occurred. This speaks well for the general sanitation of the District.

MALARIA. Only one case, and this in a man who contracted the disease abroad.

MUMPS. As usual, cases have occurred, but no epidemic of sufficient importance to necessitate the closure of the Schools.

Measles. No epidemic of any importance, except an outbreak at Aspley Heath, which necessitated the closure of the Mixed and Infants' Schools.

SCARLET FEVER. Forty-nine cases of this disease have occurred. They were distributed over the following parishes, viz., Aspley Guise, 6; Cranfield, 7; Flitton, 1; Flitwick, 4; Harlington, 1; Houghton Conquest, 3; Husborne Crawley, 1; Lidlington, 4; Marston Moretaine, 4; Maulden, 6; Shillington, 5; Westoning, 2; and Woburn, 3. No case terminated fatally, and the type of disease was, on the whole, mild. All cases of this disease, with the exception of five which were satisfactorily isolated at home, were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

PNEUMONIA. Only seven cases have been notified of this disease, which is proof positive that the type of Influenza which occurred was mild in character.

PUERPERAL FEVER. Only one case occurred, and that at Cranfield.

SMALL Pox. As usual no cases have occurred.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. Only one case occurred, and that at Millbrook. Sight not affected, nursed at home.

WHOOPING COUGH. Several of the villages had a few cases of this disease, and the Infants' School at Maulden had to be closed on account of an outbreak.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA. Three cases of this disease have occurred, two of which terminated latally. They were notified from the following parishes, viz., Flitton, Steppingley and Toddington. A detailed account (obtained from the medical man in charge of each case) was forwarded to the Ministry soon after they occurred.

ZYMOTIC DIARRHOEA. Only five deaths from this disease were brought to my notice. This was rather remarkable, considering the two conditions conducive to this complaint were present in a marked degree, viz., high temperature and low rainfall during the late Summer months. During July, August and September, we had the low rainfall of '250 in., 1'140 in., and 1'300 in. respectively. Coupled with this was one of the warmest Summers we have ever had. The inference to be derived from this is, that more care is taken in the storage of food, and the removal of decaying garbage from the vicinity of houses. In previous Reports I have given the steps that ought to be taken to prevent this disease, especially mentioning the common house fly as being an important factor. Under the circumstances, I will not recapitulate what I then said.

The following Notifications (exclusive of Tuberculosis) under the Infectious Notification Act, have been received:—

| Ampthill | Diphtheria | Shillington Erysipelas Malaria Pneumonia Scarlet Fever Scarlet Fever | 3 | [11 |
|----------|------------|--|-------------|-----|
| | Diphtheria | Diphtheria | 1 2 2 | 18 |

I now mass the cases of the entire District together, and give the seasons of the year in which they occurred:—

| 1st Three Months. | 2nd Three Months. | 3rd Three Months. | 4th Three Months. |
|--|--|--|--|
| Diphtheria 7 Encephalitis 3 Lethargica 3 Erysipelas 1 Scarlet Fever 13 | Diphtheria 3 Erysipelas 2 Malaria 1 Pneumonia 3 Scarlet Fever 10 | Diphtheria 8 Erysipelas 1 Pneumonia 1 Scarlet Fever 6 | Diphtheria 33 Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1 Pneumonia 3 Puerperal Septicaemia 1 Scarlet Fever 20 |
| 24 | 19 | 16 | 58 |

As mentioned in previous Reports, disinfectants and printed instructions are supplied gratuitously in all cases of Infectious Notifiable Disease, and at the end of the illness the rooms which the patient occupied are thoroughly disinfected with Formic Aldehyde, free of charge. If the patient is removed to Hospital, the house is disinfected immediately after the removal. In addition to the above, houses where deaths have occurred from Cancer and Phthisis are disinfected. The precautions which are taken in respect to the latter disease have been previously mentioned in this Report. All Schools are disinfected should they be considered a factor in the spread of disease, either notifiable or non-notifiable. The cost of this is refunded by the County Council. In regard to Diphtheria, the Council defray the cost of Antitoxin when used as a prophylactic, in all cases. They also undertake the cost when used as a curative agent as far as concerns poor people, and, in addition, pay the medical man administering same 2/6 if patient lives within the one-mile radius, and 1/extra for each additional mile or portion of a mile. Besides which, they undertake to pay for the examination of Diphtheric Swabs, and Widal's Reaction (for the detection of Enteric Fever).

The Rainfall is again included on account of its influence in regard to water supply and flushing of sewers, also its bearing on the causation of various diseases, especially those of the respiratory organs and Zymotic Diarrhea.

| Jan. in. | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-------|
| 1.845 | *295 | .805 | 1.102 | 1.110 | *315 | .250 | 1.140 | 1,300 | •65 | 1.825 | 1.740 |

Total for the year ... 12'380 in.

The above is, I believe, the lowest rainfall ever recorded in this district, and is slightly more than half the usual average. It was taken at Shillington with a 5 in. gauge. Height above sea level, 182 feet. Rain fell on 116 days.

WATER SUPPLY.

Owing to the extreme drought, the supply in some of the villages ran rather short, especially Haynes, Marston and Houghton Conquest. In regard to the first named, the supply has never been really adequate. The Council are now considering getting a supply for this village from either the Ampthill or Biggleswade Water Boards, and I believe the Haynes Parish Council are thoroughly in agreement with the suggestion. Wells have had to be deepened in various villages.

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

No new sewer, with the exception of one in Luton Road, Toddington, has been laid during the year. All the sewers needing it have been flushed, and the tanks cleaned out. Also all the sewer ditches have received attention.

SCAVENGING.

Scavenging schemes have been carried out at Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath, Flitwick, Toddington, Westoning and Woburn. No doubt these have conduced to an all round improvement in the sanitation of the above parishes. Personally, I think Clophill would be improved by a system of scavenging.

SCHOOLS.

No structural alteration has taken place at any of the Schools in this area. The following Schools have been closed on account of infectious disease, viz., Silsoe Infants', Chicken Pox; Haynes Infants', Influenza; Aspley Heath Mixed and Infants', Measles; Maulden Infants', Whooping Cough; and Flitwick Mixed and Infants', Diphtheria.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.

No systematic inspection has taken place during the year, with the exception of a part of Shillington and Houghtoh Conquest. A great portion of the Inspector's time was taken up with Housing, and during the year Coal was again controlled, which still further encroached on his time. The number of houses inspected at Shillington was 78, and at Houghton Conquest, 9. I sincerely hope that, now our Inspector has more time, and also has the help of an assistant, that a more detailed inspection of the villages will take place.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The following samples have been submitted to the County Analyst during the year:-

| 3 | | | | 2 | 0 | |
|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-----------------|-------|---|---------------------|
| Articles Submitted. | | Genuine Samples. | Articles Submit | tted. | | Genuine Samples. |
| Arrowroot | | 2 | Ginger (Gr | ound) | | 3 |
| Bloater Paste | | 2 | Lard | | | 12 |
| Baking Powder | | 2 | Milk | | | 23 |
| Butter | | 12 | Mustard | | | I |
| Bisto | | 1 | Rice | | | I |
| Bun Flour | | 2 | Sugar | | | 4 |
| Cakeoma | | I | Tapioca | | | 1 |
| Coffee | | 4 | Gravy Salt | | | I |
| Cocoa | | 4 | Jam | | | 3 |
| Cheese | | 5 | Margarine | | | 6 |
| Currants | | 6 | Mince Mea | t | | I |
| Custard Powder | | 2 | Pepper | | | 4 |
| Chicken and Ham | Paste | 1 | Sausages | | , | 1 |
| Carbonate of Mag | nesia | I | Sweets | | | 3 |
| Egg Powder | | 2 | Vinegar | | | 1 |

ADULTERATED SAMPLE. Milk obtained from a farm at Aspley Guise contained 8.5% added water.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES,

Details required under Section 17 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909:

| (1) | Total number inspected for defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts | 602 |
|-----|---|-----|
| (2) | Number found to be in a state so dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation | _ |
| (3) | Number found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 327 |
| (4) | Number of defective Dwellings rendered fit by action of the Local Authority or their Officers | 327 |
| (5) | Number of Dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made | _ |
| (6) | Number of Dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | _ |

General character of defects found to exist—Dilapidations.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Independently of Council Houses, plans have been received for 12 Dwelling Houses with more than one storey, and 15 Bungalows; also alterations have been made to several existing houses.

In regard to Council houses, the number on hand has now been completed. The total number is 56, distributed over the following parishes, viz.:—

Flitwick, 10. 6 Parlour type, 4 non-parlour type.

Cranfield, 6. Non-parlour type.

Harlington, 4. Non-parlour type

Maulden, 6, Parlour type,

Shillington, 6. Parlour type.

Toddington, 8. Parlour type.

Westoning, 6. Parlour type.

Flitton, 6. Two parlour, and 4 non-parlour type.

Marston Moretaine, 4. Non-parlour type.

In regard to houses of the parlour type, rents have been reduced all round from 10s. per week, plus rates, to 7s. 6d., plus rates.

I am glad to say the Council have erected no houses with less than three bed-rooms.

VACCINATION.

I will now give the Births and Vaccinations of each sub-district:-

| | Births. | Vaccinations. |
|-------------|---------|---------------|
| Ampthill | 129 | 10 |
| Cranfield | 125 | 7 |
| Shillington | 54 | 5 |
| Woburn | 45 | 60 |

With the exception of the Woburn sub-district, Vaccination has become practically a dead letter. This, no doubt, is due to the ease with which exemption certificates may be obtained. As the total number of Births was 353, and the Vaccinations 82, it shows a percentage of 23'2 Vaccinations to Births. This is, however, slightly better than last year.

Administration of the Factories and Workshops Act, 1901, for the Year 1921.

As practically no change has taken place since my last Report, I do not intend going into detail, as to do so would be only a matter of repetition. The Inspector's time is spent mainly in connection with slaughterhouses and bakehouses. There is not much fault to be found in connection with these premises.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

SMALL-POX HOSPITAL. We have not had occasion to use the Hospital, as no case of this disease has occurred in the District.

In regard to the other Hospital, Dr. Langham Garner, the Medical Superintendent of this Institution, has kindly furnished me with the following account of its administration:—

- "Isolation Hospital for Diphtheria, Scarlet and Enteric Fevers. During the year, 133 cases were admitted, of which 85 were Diphtheria, the remainder being Scarlet Fever; there were no cases of Enteric,
- "The Diphtherias were chiefly admitted during the last 4 months of the year: 38 of the patients came from the Urban District of Ampthill, and 47 from the Rural District. Of the latter, 28 were from Flitwick, all admitted during the last quarter, 5 from Maulden, 4 Clophill, 3 Marston, 2 Houghton Conquest, and 1 each from Aspley Guise, Lidlington, Steppingley, Haynes and Greenfield. I regret to say that two cases proved fatal:
- (a) A boy, aged 5, from Ampthill; (b) a boy, aged 14, from Flitwick.

 Both died within a week of admission. Several cases were very severe, and were complicated by paralysis and cardiac weakness.
- "Of the 48 cases of Scarlet Fever, only 2 were Urban, and both were admitted early in the year; the remaining rural cases came in fairly evenly during the 12 months. The type of disease was mild, and comparatively free from complication.
 - "Neither the Diphtheria nor Scarlet Wards were once closed during the year."

During the past twelve months, your Inspector has got over a considerable amount of work, and, as usual, has exercised a great deal of tact. The Council are extremely fortunate in obtaining the services of a capable Assistant Inspector, who already has done good work. I hope, now, the work of House Inspection will make increased headway.

Acreage (exclusive of area covered by water), 68,195. Population, 19,180.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentleman,

Your most obedient Servant,

April 18th, 1922.

KILHAM ROBERTS, M.O.H.

Ampthill Rural District Council.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1921.

Summary of defects and other matters dealt with during the year: Nuisances caused by Defective and Insufficient Closets 2. Ashpits and Bins 40 3. Drains 44 Damp Premises 4. 7 Spouting required to Eaves 5. Overcrowding 6. 6 Accumulations of offensive matter 38 Dwellings required Cleansing and Limewashing ... 33 Repairs to Roofs and Chimney Heads Q. ,, 13 Sundry Structural repairs 10. 60 II. with Insufficient Light and Ventilation ... 1.4 ,, Defective or Insufficient Water Supply 12. 13 Windows 13. T 2 Yard Paving 14. ,, 15. Wells and Pumps repaired and cleansed 21 16. New Houses received Water Certificates 28 Insanitary Sinks 17. 3 Defective Soft Water Tanks 18. Defective Soft Water Tanks ... Inspections of Diseased Meat, &c. 10 Rooms Disinfected after Infectious Disease 20. 126 Tuberculosis ... 21. 31 Cancer ... 22. 66 Schools Disinfected 23. 4 Other cases of Tuberculosis 18 21. Total ... 631 The above 631 cases were approximately in connection with 602 premises. Number of Statutory Notices served ... Informal ,, ,, ... 334 Complaints received and dealt with... 62 Proceedings taken Nil

SEWERAGE.

Various small improvements have been made to the Sewers in the parishes of Toddington, Shillington, Marston, Cranfield and Gravenhurst. Extensions to existing sewers have been made at Haynes, Pulloxhill and Cranfield. At Toddington a new nine inch sewer has been laid in Luton Road, and improvements made in the main sewers near the Pond. During the dry weather the Town pond was partly cleaned out, and the walls round it cemented.

The Village Pond at Pulloxhill was cleaned out in the dry weather; it is a deep pond, and was perfectly dry for the first time in the memory of living man.

The sewers in all the parishes needing it have been flushed, and the sewage tanks cleaned out periodically in the parishes of Maulden, Toddington, Silsoe, Westoning, Pulloxhill, Harlington, Shillington, Eversholt, Salford and Cranfield. Forty-six sewer ditches have been regularly cleaned out.

WATER SUPPLY.

The dry Summer, made water very short in several parishes, particularly Haynes, Marston and Houghton Conquest. Several wells were cleaned out and deepened, but the very high cost of well sinkers' work deterred more being done. Steps are now being taken to provide a public supply to Haynes.

SCAVENGING WORK.

ASPLEY GUISE. The collection of house refuse from ashpits and ashbins has been continued during the year.

ASPLEY HEATH. The collection of dry house refuse from a few houses in the parish that have no garden ground has been continued during the year. The collection is made fortnightly.

FLITWICK. The scavenging has been carried out by a new contractor during the year. The total cost for the past twelve months has been £261 os, 5d., equal to an average cost per week of £5 os. 4d., against £4 12s. od. the previous year. The following sanitary receptacles have been emptied during the year: 79 ashpits, 15,676 ashbins, 28,380 closet pails, 38 closet vaults and 170 cesspools. This shows an increase in the number of ashpits, ashbins and closet pails, and a decrease in the number of closet vaults and cesspools.

TODDINGTON. This work has been satisfactorily carried out by the two Contractors. The total cost for the twelve months has been £205 15s. 1d., against £192 8s. od. for the previous year. The average cost per week has been £3 19s. 1d., against £3 14s. od. last year. The following work has been carried out by the two Contractors: they have emptied 250 ashpits, 8,094 ashbins, 27,660 closet pails, 152 closet vaults and 15 cesspools. This shows an all-round increase in the work.

WOBURN. The collection of house refuse in this parish has been continued during the year.

WESTONING. The scavenging has been carried out by the same Contractor during the year. The total cost for the past twelve months has been £125 19s. 3d., equal to an average cost per week of £2 8s. 5d. The Contractor has carried out the following work: he has emptied 2 ashpits, 3,750 ashbins, 7,048 closet pails, 29 closet vaults and 7 cesspools. This is the first complete year the work has been done in this parish, so there is no comparison.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The bakehouses and slaughterhouses have been regularly inspected. There are at present 38 bakehouses, and 34 slaughterhouses in the District. 143 inspections have been made, and 15 defects reported at 11 bakehouses and 4 slaughterhouses. Details of each inspection have been entered in the Factory and Workshop Inspection Book.

One bakehouse at Shillington has closed. Two licences have been issued for slaughter-

houses, one at Flitwick, and one at Salford.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The total number of persons registered since the Regulations came into force in 1900, is 339: the number of persons registered during this year is 13. 179 have been crossed off the Register from time to time, as, discontinued the trade, left the district, &c., leaving 160 persons who have 163 premises liable to inspection. Number of premises inspected is 163. Number requiring work to floors, walls, drains, &c: 17 dairies, and 43 cowsheds. The approximate number of cows milked in the district is 1,714, against 1,673 last year.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Plans have been received during the year for:-

12 Dwelling houses

15 Bungalows

I Re-building Public House

S Additions to existing houses

I New drainage to existing house 1 Entertainment Hall

1 Canteen 2 Workshops

1 Temporary Public House

1 Parish Room 1 Motor Garage

Total 44, against 61 last year.

In addition to the above, the Council have erected 56 new houses-32 parlour type and 24 non-parlour.

SUMMARY.

| | Inspected. | Defects. |
|-------------------------|------------|----------|
| Nuisances, &c | 602 | 618 |
| Factories and Workshops | 143 | 15 |
| Dairies and Cowsheds | 163 | 60 |
| | | |
| Total | 908 | 693 |
| | | |

LEONARD FOSTER, Inspector.
W. HAYLOCK, Assistant Inspector.

4th April, 1922, FLITWICK, AMPTHILL.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE

Ampthill Rural District in the year 1921.

| A | | | V | | |
|------------------------------|--------|----------|--|--------|----------|
| Causes of Death. | Males. | Females. | Causes of Death. | Males. | Females. |
| CIVILIANS ONLY. | | | CIVILIANS ONLY. | | |
| ALL CAUSES | 140 | 153 | | | |
| Enteric Fever | | | Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) | 3 | 2 |
| Small-pox | | | Appendicitis and Typhlitis | | I |
| Measles | | | Cirrhosis of Liver | ! | |
| Scarlet Fever | | | Acute and Chronic Nephritis | I | 5 |
| Whooping-cough | 2 | | Puerperal Sepsis | | ı |
| Diphtheria | 2 | I | Other Accidents and Diseases | | |
| Influenza | | | of Pregnancy and Parturition | | 1 |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | 1 | 2 | Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, Premature Birth | 8 | 2 |
| Meningococcal Meningitis | | | Suicide | | |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory | 8 | | Other Deaths from Violence | 7 | 1 |
| Other Tuberculous diseases | | . 9 | 0.1 0.4 10. | | 3 |
| | | 3 | Other Defined Diseases Causes ill-defined or unknown | | 44 |
| | | 23 | | | I |
| Rheumatic Fever | | 1 | Special Causes (included above) | | |
| Diabetes | | 2 | Poliomyelitis | | |
| Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c | 9 | 15 | Polioencephalitis | | |
| Heart Disease | 10 | 19 | Deaths of Infants Total | 19 | 9 |
| Arterio-sclerosis | 5 | 1 | under 1 year { Illegitimate | 1 | I |
| Bronchitis | 10 | 10 | Total Births | 186 | 167 |
| Pneumonia (all forms) | 5 | 4 | Legitimate | 181 | 161 |
| Other Respiratory diseases | | I | Illegitimate | 5 | 6 |
| Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum | | I | Population | 19 | 180 |
| | | | | | |

TABLE XV.—Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1921.

Proximinal figures. Populations as enumerated in 1921 have been used for the purposes of this Table. The Mortality Rates refer to the whole Population as regards England and Wales, but only to Civilians as regards London and the groups of Towns.)

| | Birth- | | Annual Death-rate per I,000 Population. | | | | | | Rate per 1,000 Births, | | Percentage of Total Deaths, | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------------|---|------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| | rate per 1,000 Total Popula- tion, | All Causes. | Enteric Fever. | Small-pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Whooping- cough. | Diphtheria. | Influenza. | Violence. | Diarrhosa and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.). | Total Deaths under I year. | Deaths in Public Institutions, | Certified Causes of Death. | Inquest Cases. | Uncertified Causes of Death. |
| England and Wales | 22.4 | 12.1 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.15 | 0.23 | 0.44 | 15.5 | 83 | 25.5 | 92.5 | 6.4 | 1.1 |
| 96 Great Towns, including London (1921 Census Populations exceeding 50,000) 148 Smaller Towns (1921 Census Populations 20,000—50,000) London | 23·3 22·7 22.3 | 12·3 11·3 12·4 | 0.0I 0.0I | 0.00 | 0°08 0°05 0°05 | 0°04 0°03 0°06 | 0·13 0·11 0·12 | 0·15 0·11 0·25 | 0°23 0°26 0°23 | 0.40 0.35 0.42 | 19·3 15·6 21·3 | 87 84 80 | 33·2 17·7 49·2 | 92°5 93°5 91°6 | 6·8 5·I 8·2 | 0.7 I.4 0.2 |

